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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/761,206	01/22/2004	Toru Matsuda	247891US2	2349

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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

RAYYAN, SUSAN F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2167

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/26/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 02/26/2007.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/761,206

Applicant(s)

MATSUDA ET AL.

Examiner

Susan F. Rayyan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

DETAILED ACTION

2. Claims 1-23 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 16,18,20,22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 16,18,20,22 are indefinite as to when the session management step starts. ("when a management start request is received" or "when a request other than a management start request is receive" – this could include a management stop request).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0130945 issued to Michael Patrick Force et al ("Force") and US Patent Number 4,627,019 issued to Fred K. Ng ("Ng").

As per independent claim 1 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118, session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) ,

wherein the session management unit is configured to start the management of the session processing steps when a management start request is received from the client (paragraph 119-120, Session Manager receives client request to perform operations) or when a request other than the management start request is received (paragraph 122 requests from unattended interface module).

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

As per independent claim 2 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118,session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

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and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) , wherein the session management unit is configured to start the management of the session processing steps when a management start request is received from the client (paragraph 119-120, Session Manager receives client request to perform operations) and when a request other than the management start request is received (paragraph 119).

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

As per independent claim 5 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118,session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) ,

wherein the transaction management unit is configured to start the management of the transaction processing steps when a management start request is received from the client or when a request other than the management start request is received ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) .

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

As per independent claim 6 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118,session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) ,

wherein the transaction management unit is configured to start the management of the transaction processing steps when a management start request is received from the client and when a request other than the management start request is received ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions).

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

As per claim 11 same as claim arguments above and Ng teaches:

the transaction management unit is configured to receive a lock type ... (column1, lines 26-35).

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As per claim 12 same as claim arguments above and Ng teaches:

wherein the transaction management unit is configured to receives a lock type...

(Column1, lines 26-35).

As per claim 13 same as claim arguments above and Ng teaches:

wherein the second management unit determines a classification of a lock request ...

(Column1, lines 26-35).

Claims 3-4, 7-10, 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2003/0130945 issued to Michael Patrick Force et al ("Force") and US Patent Number 4,627,019 issued to Fred K. Ng ("Ng") in view of US Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0200212 issued to Donald Edward Benson et al ("Benson").

As per independent claims 3 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118,session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) , wherein the session management unit is configured to end the management of the session processing steps when a management end request is received from the client (paragraph 119-120, Session Manager to include end requests).

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

Force and Ng do not explicitly teach or when a predetermined time-out period expires. Benson does teach this limitation (paragraph 21, lines 4-5, end transaction call, paragraph 36, timestamp and Figure 2, Expire Timestamp). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art the time of the invention to modify Force and Ng with when a predetermined time-out period expires to support synchronization/recovery (paragraph 36, lines 12-13).

As per independent claim 4 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118, session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) , wherein the session management unit is configured to end the management of the session processing steps when a management end request is received from the client (paragraph 119-120, Session Manager to include end requests).

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

Force and Ng do not explicitly teach or when a predetermined time-out period expires. Benson does teach this limitation (paragraph 21, lines 4-5, end transaction call, paragraph 36, timestamp and Figure 2, Expire Timestamp). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art the time of the invention to modify Force and Ng with

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when a predetermined time-out period expires to support synchronization/recovery (paragraph 36, lines 12-13).

As per independent claim 7 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118, session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) ,

wherein the transaction management unit is configured to end the management of the transaction processing steps when a management end request is received from the client (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) , paragraph 119-120, Session Manager to include end requests).

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

Force and Ng do not explicitly teach or when a predetermined time-out period expires. Benson does teach this limitation (paragraph 21, lines 4-5, end transaction call, paragraph 36, timestamp and Figure 2, ExpireTimestamp). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force and Ng with when a predetermined time-out period expires to support synchronization/recovery (paragraph 36, lines 12-13).

As per independent claim 8 Force teaches:

a session management unit configured to manage a series of session first processing steps and incidental information in a state where a session with a client is maintained (see paragraph 118, session management engine and client ID equates to incidental information);

and a transaction management unit configured to manage a series of indivisible transaction steps performed by using the function ... (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) ,

wherein the transaction management unit is configured to end the management of the transaction processing steps when a management end request is received from the client (paragraph 102, Transaction Processing Server and 120 predetermined transaction functions) , paragraph 119-120, Session Manager to include end requests).

Force does not explicitly teach performed by using a function that needs exclusive access control . Ng teaches a function that needs exclusive access control at column 1, lines 28-30 to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force with exclusive access control to provide synchronization of current access at column 1, lines 20-25.

Force and Ng do not explicitly teach or when a predetermined time-out period expires. Benson does teach this limitation (paragraph 21, lines 4-5, end transaction call, paragraph 36, timestamp and Figure 2, ExpireTimestamp). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force and Ng with when a predetermined time-out period expires to support synchronization/recovery (paragraph 36, lines 12-13).

As per claim 9, same as claim arguments above and Force and Ng do not explicitly teach wherein the transaction management unit is configured to transmit, before the management of the transaction processing steps has begun, , a lock request ... Benson does teach this limitation at (paragraph 93) to support synchronization/recovery. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force and Ng with wherein the transaction management unit is configured to transmit, before the management of the transaction processing steps has begun, , a lock request ... to support synchronization/recovery paragraph 36, lines 12-13).

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As per claim 10 same as claim arguments above and Benson teaches:

wherein the transaction management unit is configured to transmits, after the management of the transaction processing steps has ended , an unlock request to the module so that inhibition of using the function by other clients than said client is canceled (paragraph 93).

As per claim 14 same as claim arguments above and Force and Ng do not explicitly

teach the transaction management unit is configured to transmit, before the management of the transaction processing steps is started , a lock request ... (paragraph 93). Benson does teach this limitation at (paragraph 93) to support synchronization/recovery. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Force and Ng with the transaction management unit is configured to transmit, before the management of the transaction processing steps is started , a lock request ... to support synchronization/recovery paragraph 36, lines 12-13).

As per claim 15 same as claim arguments above and Benson teaches:

wherein the transaction management unit is configured to transmit, after the management of the transaction processing steps has ended, an unlock request ... (paragraph 93).

5. Claims 16-23 are rejected based on the same rationale as claims 1-8 above.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan Rayyan whose telephone number is (571) 272-1675. The examiner can normally be reached M-F: 8am - 4:30pm.

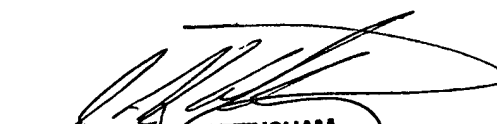
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Susan Rayyan

February 5, 2007


JOHN COTTINGHAM
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